

*“Over 94,000 veterans live in Arizona’s 8th Congressional district. We must keep our commitment to honor them and their families.”*

— Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords



# Honoring our Veterans

SIERRA VISTA  
**THE HERALD**

## Assessing Gabrielle Giffords’ performance

By Lee Basnar

Sunday, August 26, 2007

“Giffords has been a strong supporter of our active and retired military members and their families. For example, the Military Officers Association of America listed six key issues in its August edition of Military Officer magazine. Giffords co-sponsored every one, which

included eliminating the deduction of VA survivor benefits from survivor benefit annuities, eliminating the offset between military retired pay and veterans’ disability compensation, and barring fee increases for TRICARE beneficiaries during fiscal year 2008.”

*Newspapers praise Congresswoman Giffords’ work in support of our military and veterans.*

**Serving Southern Arizona and always here to help you and your family.**

Please visit our website, [www.giffords.house.gov](http://www.giffords.house.gov), and sign-up to receive our periodic electronic newsletter. Contact Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords at:

**Tucson District Office**  
1661 N. Swan, Suite 112  
Tucson, AZ 85712  
Phone: (520) 881-3588  
Fax: (520) 322-9490

**Cochise County District Office**  
77 Calle Portal, Suite B-160  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
Phone: (520) 459-3115  
Fax: (520) 459-5419

**Washington, D.C. Office**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
502 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-2542/Fax: (202) 225-0378



Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords  
Tucson Congressional Office  
1661 North Swan, Suite 112  
Tucson, AZ 85712

Official Business

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

*Gabrielle Giffords*  
MC

**PRESORTED STANDARD**

# Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords Fighting to Support Our Veterans



*Giffords consults with her Veterans' Advisory Council about legislation in Congress.*



*Our troops' mental and physical health is a priority for Giffords.*



*Giffords meets with World War II and Korean War veteran Bob Berry about vets' issues.*



*Giffords supports tax cuts and retirement pay for military families.*

## **Voted for the largest funding increase in VA history (VA Budget Authorization)**

Giffords supported **\$600 million more for mental health, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury** care than requested by the President, critical funding that would make **five polytrauma centers** and **three Centers of Excellence for Mental Health and PTSD** fully operational.

## **Strengthened Health Care for Our Troops and Military Retirees (H.R. 1585)**

Giffords believes our troops' mental and physical health is a top priority. She voted to **prohibit fee increases in TRICARE** and its pharmacy program for service members and retirees. She also supported restoring **2,300 medical personnel** and full funding for military health facility maintenance.

## **Supported Wounded Warrior Assistance Act (H.R. 1538)**

Giffords passed an amendment that **increases the reporting requirements on mental health services for returning combat veterans**. H.R. 1538 also improves outpatient medical care for wounded service members at military health care facilities, and **cuts bureaucratic red-tape** by improving the transition of wounded service members from the Armed Forces to the VA system.

## **Opposed Taxes on Veterans' Families**

Giffords cosponsored legislation that would put an **end to the Military Families Tax**, which unfairly penalizes more than 60,000 survivors, most of them widows (H.R. 1927). She supports allowing **disabled veterans and their families to collect both retirement pay and disability compensation** (H.R. 303, H.R. 89). *Bills pending committee action.*



## **Ask General William Odom Your Questions about Iraq**

Congresswoman Giffords is hosting a live telephone forum to discuss U.S. military strategy in Iraq. General William Odom, retired U.S. Army 3-star general and former Director of the National Security Agency under President Reagan, will participate as her guest. RSVP by to the Tucson office (520) 881-3588 or Cochise County office (520) 459-3115 to participate in this live telephone forum on **November 14th at 6:15 p.m.** Arizona time.